H.958

An act relating to communications union districts

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. COMMUNICATIONS UNION DISTRICT FORMATION; TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION FOR MUNICIPAL LEGISLATIVE BODIES

For purposes of formation of a communications union district and notwithstanding the provisions of 30 V.S.A. § 3051(b) requiring a vote by the eligible voters of a municipality at an annual or special meeting, during a declared state of emergency under 20 V.S.A. chapter 1 due to COVID-19, the legislative body of a municipality may vote to enter into a communications union district under the provisions of 30 V.S.A. chapter 82.

Sec. 2. 30 V.S.A. § 3059 is amended to read:

§ 3059. APPOINTMENT

Annually on or before the last Monday in April commencing in the year following the effective date of the district's creation, the legislative body of each member shall appoint a representative and one or more alternates to the governing board for one-year terms. Appointments of representatives and alternates shall be in writing, signed by the chair of the legislative body of the appointing member, and presented to the clerk of the district. The legislative body of a member, by majority vote, may replace its appointed representative or alternate at any time and shall promptly notify the district clerk of such

replacement. <u>Initial appointments shall be made within 60 days of the vote to</u> form a district under subsection 3051(b) of this title and initial terms may be for less than one year.

Sec. 3. 30 V.S.A. § 3060 is amended to read:

§ 3060. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Annually, on the second Tuesday in May following the appointments contemplated in section 3059 of this chapter, the board shall hold its organizational meeting. At such meeting, the board shall elect from among its appointed representatives a chair and a vice chair, each of whom shall hold office for one year and until his or her successor is duly elected. The board's initial organizational meeting shall be held within 90 days of the vote to form a district under subsection 3051(b) of this title.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.